COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICE

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September 9, 2002

To:

Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair Pro Tem

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

Jon W. Fullinwider

Chief Information Office

Subject: REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER WEBSITE - STATUS REPORT

On July 30, 2002, your Board directed the Chief Administrative Officer, the Chief Information Officer and the Sheriff to develop a map similar to the City of San Diego that identifies the location of Megan's Law Registered Sex Offenders to be posted on the County's website. We were directed to report back within two weeks with a report on the implementation of this project. On August 14, 2002, I submitted a report that included an Implementation Plan to implement the website within 30 days. However, through negotiations with the 5th District, it was agreed to implement the project in two (2) phases, with the first phase being operational on September 6, 2002. The second phase is scheduled for completion on September 20, 2002.

Phase I of the Registered Sex Offender Locator System was successfully implemented on September 6, 2002 at approximately 12:30 p.m., following a well attended news conference held by Supervisor Antonovich. Within the first 12 hours of operation the website received over 2.6 million hits. As of 8:00 a.m. on Monday, the website has processed over 5.5 million requests for Registered Sex Offender Locator information. By comparison, the San Diego system received 960,000 requests the first 24 hours of operation.

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While there were some minor technical problems and initially slow response times, County staff responded quickly to restore full operation. Two additional servers were added to the website to compensate for the unprecedented demand for this critical information.

Phase I provides the capability to select a city/community, zip code or specific address to view "High Risk" and "Serious" sex offenders within the selected area. The system allows the constituent to select a perimeter from 1/10th to 1 mile around a specified address or selected point, and displays the relative location of sex offenders within the perimeter. Driving directions are also provided from the selected address to one of the four nearest law enforcement agencies that have access to more detailed offender information on a Megan's terminal. Phase II will include the capability to select a specific school, park or library within the County and display the relative locations of sex offenders within a 1/10th to 1 mile perimeter of the specified location.

Implemented within the requested two week timeframe, this state-of-art website is cost effectively meeting the public's need for information to ensure that parents are informed and better able to protect their children and families. The demand for this information has far exceeded our expectations.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact me at (213) 974-2008.

JWF:JM:ygd

c: Sheriff
Chief Administrative Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director, Internal Services Department
Information Systems Commission